

Volume 1, Issue 5 June 2010

Parent News

Supporting Student Success

June 5

Citywide Elementary Science Fair at Walker Jones Education Campus, 1125 New Jersey Ave. NW

June 6

Secondary School Transformation Series at Columbia Heights Education Campus, 3101 16th St. NW, 6:30-8 p.m.

June 10

Secondary School Transformation Series at Hart Middle School, 601 Mississippi Ave. SE, 6:30-8 p.m.

June 10

Chancellor's Office Hours at Tyler Elementary School, 1001 G St. SE, 6-8 p.m.

June 14

Secondary School Transformation Series at McKinley Technology High School, 151 T St. NE, 6:30-8 p.m.

June 16

Secondary School Transformation Series at Wilson High School, 3950 Chesapeake St. NW, 6:30-8 p.m.

June 30

Chancellor's Community Forum at Brent Elementary School, 301 North Carolina Ave. SE, 6:30-8 p.m.

Great Learning Opportunity: Summer 2010

Did you know all students experience some "brain drain" during the summer, most notably in reading and math? What can you do? This summer, find ways to maintain and boost your child's learning by incorporating educational and experiential activities into your regular routines.

Read, read, read. The best way to keep strong readers strong and help struggling readers improve is to have your child reading regularly over summer. The D.C. Public Library has reading programs in which your child can participate. You also can start your own book club. Pick a series of books to read, and reward your child for reading the books AND writing about them.

Move, move, move. Some kids look at summer as one long TV/videogame/online chat session. It is important to keep your child involved in physical activities, talking with others and engaged in the community. This is a great time to complete some community service hours!

Talk, talk, talk. Summer is also a time when kids may go to camp or spend more time out of the house with friends. The best way to know what's going on with your child is to talk to your child. What did they do today? What was the best part of the day? What did they read?

Look ahead. Talk to your child about what to expect the next academic year. Ask your child's teacher to provide worksheets or suggestions to build upon what your child learned this year. Brainstorm with your child about what he or she wants to do in the next year, five years, or 10 years. The best way to help your child see the future is to look in that direction.



Student from Alice Deal Middle School Photo by Bel Perez-Gabliondo

Each week this summer, check out our website (www.dcps.dc.gov) for ideas of what you can do to boost your child's learning!



Students from Roosevelt STAY Photo by Michael DeAngelis



Student from Scott Montgomery Elementary School
Photo by Michael DeAngelis

Did you know there are 24 library locations in the District? Find one near you by logging on to www.dclibrary.org. Visit a library near you today to borrow books, educational DVDs and CDs for free!



Students at Eliot-Hine Middle School Photo by Bel Perez-Gabliondo

Enrollment has started for 2010-2011

You should have received enrollment packets with your child's current enrollment information in the mail. Please take a few minutes to complete and return the forms to your child's school as soon as possible. If you did not receive a packet, please contact the school. Early enrollment helps us prepare to give your child the best start in the new school year.

Free Lunches Continue Through the Summer

All children are eligible to participate in the DC Summer Food program. Free lunch will be available at sites throughout the city. Location information is available by dialing 311 or visiting www.dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/summeryouthprogram.

Local Museums Offer Free Summer Enrichment

Visit: National Air and Space Museum

Where: Independence Ave. & 6th St. SW, Smithsonian Metro station Why: See full-sized airplanes, real-life space shuttles and board interactive flight simulators.

Visit: U.S. Botanic Garden

Where: 100 Maryland Ave. SW, Federal Center Metro station Why: Check out desert plants, rainforests and play in the fountains in the children's gardens. Great for a rainy day!

Visit: Natural History Museum

Where: 10th St NW, Smithsonian Metro station

Why: Explore nature in this hands-on museum. Check out the Insect

Zoo, Dinosaur Hall and Sea Life Hall.

Visit: National Portrait Gallery

Where: 8th & F streets NW, Gallery Place/Chinatown Metro station Why: Great for older children and teenagers; view portraits of the world's most famous people.

What We Believe: It is critical to engage our students' families and communities as valued partners.

As our students say goodbye to their teachers and school administrators for the summer, they say hello to their families, friends and neighbors. Here at DCPS, we believe it truly does take a village to raise a child. Our children learn every place they go. They learn at home, in the park, at the pool, in the library.

Families and communities can be powerful partners in our children's learning by helping them become informed and engaged adult citizens. Often, what we adults do every day to take care of our families are the same skills our children need to learn. Remember to take time this summer to teach your children the things that you know best. Children may get a break from school, but they never stop learning.